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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: M. Oshima et al.
Serial No.: 09/588,364
Filed: June 2, 2000
FOR: MARK FORMING APPARATUS,
METHOD OF FORMING LASER
MARK ON OPTICAL DISK,
REPRODUCING APPARATUS,
OPTICAL DISK AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING OPTICAL DISK

: Art Unit: 2132

: Examiner: S. Kabakoff

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are not required to be provided, because

they were cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 08/560,015, filed November 17, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,761,301, issued June 2, 1998, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

More than three months have elapsed since the filing of the above-referenced application and a first (non-Final) Official Action has been received. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. Accordingly and as more specifically indicated below, the required fee or certification (as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) is provided herewith.

The required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,


Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

Encls.: PTO Form 1449,
Check
Dated: September 24, 2001

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

 9/24/01